

## Speaker Biographies

**Zachary Adams** is the Co-Director of Environmental, Health, and Safety Services at Virginia Tech, where he oversees fire safety, occupational safety, and emergency planning. He has 21 years of experience and is a licensed engineer, certified safety professional, and certified industrial hygienist. He is vice chair for the Montgomery County LEPC, Health and Safety Chair for the Montgomery County Chapter of the American Red Cross, and a member of the New River Valley Citizens Corps Council. E-mail: [adamsz@vt.edu](mailto:adamsz@vt.edu)

**Benjamin F. Anthony** was a high school teacher in North Carolina and Virginia before joining the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Recreation Supervisor. He then became a trainer in the department's training unit. Anthony is nationally certified in juvenile gangs and was recently named as a board member of the Virginia Gang Investigators Association. He started DJJ's institutional security threat group task force and helped write its first standard operating procedure for dealing with gangs in the institutions. Anthony now trains all DJJ staff on gang matters as the department's first Gang Training Coordinator for the Gang Management Unit. E-mail: [benjamin.anthony@djv.virginia.gov](mailto:benjamin.anthony@djv.virginia.gov)

**Gordon Barwell** joined the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) in 1997 and is currently Director of the Local Support Services Division. He previously served as Senior Training and Development Coordinator and Chief, State Plans and Special Projects. He developed and implemented six Local Emergency Management Operations Courses. He also developed a state agency guide for Emergency Response/Continuity of Operations Planning. E-mail: [gordon.barwell@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:gordon.barwell@vdem.virginia.gov)

**Greg Britt** is currently VDEM's Hazardous Materials Field Manager. He has more than 20 years experience in the field of public safety. In the early 1980s he was employed by Fairfax County Fire and Rescue as a fire fighter, EMT, and Hazardous Materials Technician. In 1988, he accepted a position with VDEM as a Hazardous Materials Officer for the Central Virginia area, where he has responded to over 500 hazardous materials incidents. E-mail: [gregory.britt@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:gregory.britt@vdem.virginia.gov)

**Steve Chafin** has 23 years of experience in electric distribution. He has Operations Management experience at the local office level, and has managed one of Dominion's three Delivery Operations Centers. As manager of the Emergency Preparedness Center, his focus has been on ensuring Dominion's responsiveness in the face of major storms, delivering an effective restoration strategy, efficient resource utilization, and has helped enhance Dominion's ability to provide information to customers and governmental officials throughout each event. E-mail:

**Janet L. Clements** joined VDEM in 1984 and is currently Chief Deputy State Coordinator. She was formerly the Public Affairs Director and served as the agency's chief spokesperson for coordinating crisis communications and emergency public information, including 19 presidentially declared disasters and numerous emergencies and incidents. She was instrumental in promoting hazard awareness and disaster preparedness throughout Virginia. E-mail: [janet.clements@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:janet.clements@vdem.virginia.gov)

**Michael M. Cline** joined VDEM in 1972, starting in the Public Assistance Office working during Hurricane Agnes and the October floods. He has served as State Coordinator of emergency management since 1998. Cline has been a member of the State Disaster Response Team for more than 30 presidentially declared disasters. He has worked as Deputy State Coordinating

Officer and State Coordinating Officer during floods, ice storms, and hurricanes since 1984.  
E-mail: michael.cline@vdem.virginia.gov

**Harry E. Colestock, III** joined VDEM in 1993 and is currently Director of Operations. His previous experience includes State Recovery Manager, legislative liaison, and hazardous materials emergency planning, a special project related to the Department of Defense, and grants management. E-mail: harry.colestock@vdem.virginia.gov

**Patrick M. Collins** has worked in Prince William County for the last three years as the county's Emergency Management Coordinator responsible for disaster response/recovery. He worked for VDEM managing the Commonwealth's Terrorism Response Training Program. Collins started his career in public safety with the Chesterfield County Fire Department as a Safe Officer. E-mail: pcollins@pwcgov.org

**Ted Costin** is the Director of the Preparedness, Training, and Exercise Division for VDEM. Previously, he worked for the County of Greenville as the Planning Director and then as the Assistant County Administrator. In both positions he served as Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Services. He managed many aspects of the county's response to and recovery from Hurricanes Isabelle and Fran, Y2K, and several other events.  
E-mail: ted.costing@vdem.virginia.gov

**Robert P. Crouch, Jr.** serves as the Assistant to the Governor for Commonwealth Preparedness. Prior to that, he served as Legal Counsel to Governor Mark R. Warner. From January 2002 to May 2005 he was the Chief Deputy Secretary of Public Safety. Crouch has eight years of experience as a United States Attorney in the Western District of Virginia. He was in a private law practice for five years in Charlottesville and Martinsville. He served as Clerk of the Circuit Court in Henry County for nine years. Crouch has degrees from the University of Maryland, the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, and his law degree from the University of Virginia.

#### **Battalion Chief James Daugherty**

**Chief Gary A. DeBrueler** has served as the Director of Fire and Rescue for Frederick County, Virginia since 1998 and brings more than 35 years of fire, rescue, EMS, and emergency management experience to his position. He began his career as a volunteer firefighter and medic in 1970 with the Middletown Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company serving as the Assistant Chief from 1977 through 1987. DuBrueler joined the Fairfax County, Virginia Fire and Rescue Department in 1973 where he advanced to the rank of Captain and EMS Battalion Supervisor. E-mail: gdubruel@co.frederick.va.us

**Randy DeVaul, MA, RSHEP** is principal of Randy DeVaul, LLC, in Chester, Virginia. He provides safety and human resources management consulting and professional writing services. These include on-site safety audits, emergency response plans, regulatory and compliance plans and training documents, and employer/employee communications. DeVaul is certified through the Virginia Department of Fire Programs in Hazardous Materials Operations to provide training in emergency planning and management subjects.

**Marilyn DiPaolo** is a Program Manager for the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice. During the past 11 years she has held oversight responsibility for the effective operations of court services units and has provided consultation and technical assistance to the judiciary, governmental officials, state and local boards, commissions and service providers in the areas of administration, juvenile justice best practices, and program development and implementation. E-mail: Marilyn.DiPaolo@djj.virginia.gov

**W. B. "Bud" Droke** is currently serving as the Senior Military Analyst for all-hazards plans, operations and exercises, command and control systems integration, Army Museums and Army Force Modernization relative to Army installations on the East Coast. He retired as a Colonel in 1966 after four years enlisted and 30 years Army commissioned service in Airborne Infantry, Special Operations and Logistics positions with command and staff assignments at every grade. After leaving active service, he continued to support the military by working on war-gaming and training simulation programs for two years and then taught high school social studies for five years. E-mail: bud.droke@us.army.mil

**Clarence Elliott** is a Certified Computer Professional and a Master Business Continuity Planner. His experience includes 25+ years experience in private and government Continuity Planning, IT, Emergency Management, and related fields. He is currently a Senior Consultant with Business To Business Solutions. E-mail: celliot@b2bsol.com

**Julian Gilman** serves as the Homeland Security Program Manager/Grant Manager for the Commonwealth, a position established in VDEM in 2003. He started at VDEM in 1996, as State Public Assistance Officer, working with FEMA on declared disasters in the Commonwealth. He left briefly to take a position in bio-terrorism in 2002. E-mail: julian.gilman@vdem.virginia.gov

**Matthew Greenwald** is currently Washington Metro's lead government relations liaison for homeland security. He has over 15 years of public policy and government relations experience. He worked on Capitol Hill for seven years as a senior analyst for the U.S. Senate Budget Committee and then served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Senate Liaison at the Department of Energy during the tenure of Secretary Bill Richardson. E-mail:

**Terry Hall** is responsible for York County's 911 Center, its technical division providing support to its regional communications radio system, and is the county's facilitator for the construction and lease of cellular towers on county property. Over the past four years, Hall has been Project Manager for a Regional Radio Communications System between York and James City counties. He just completed a complete overhaul and upgrade of York County's Emergency Communications Center. E-mail: hallt@yorkcounty.gov

**Hampton Hart** assumed the position as the Exercise Training Officer for the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2003. He is responsible for coordinating and managing the state's Comprehensive Exercise Program, to include the design, development, and delivery of the Commonwealth's Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program. Hart retired from the U.S. Army having last served as a joint force trainer and Command Liaison Officer on the staff of the US Transportation Command.

**Thomas Hassler** is President of the Virginia Emergency Management Association. He joined VEMA in 1994 and became a business representative of the Executive Board in 1996. He became president of VEMA in March 2004 and serves on the Virginia Emergency Management Conference Steering Committee. He became a Certified Emergency Manager in 1997, with recertification in this field in 2002. Hassler retired from the United States Navy in 1987 and joined Jefferson Lab with emergency management being one of his responsibilities. He retired from Jefferson Lab in 2002. E-mail: tomandellen1@cox.net

**Robin Hillman** has over 20 years combined experience in continuity planning and emergency management. She is currently employed by Affinion Loyalty Group as Director of Security and Compliance. She has been the company's Business Continuity Planner and Emergency Coordinator for over 15 years. E-mail: rhillman@hotmail.com

**Clyde Hoey** is President and CEO of the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, a 70-year-old regional business association. The chamber serves the Cities of Hampton, Newport News, and Poquoson and the Counties of York and James City. During his tenure membership has grown from just over a 1,000 members to 2,559 members. Hoey has introduced many new business programs that are directed at assisting existing businesses with their growth, development, and employment needs. E-mail: choey@vpcc.org

**Phil Hysell** has been the Warning Coordination Meteorologist in Blacksburg, Virginia since December 2005. He joined the National Weather Service as a meteorologist intern at the Monett, Missouri office in July 1990, and served as a forecaster and lead forecaster in Wichita, Kansas and Wilmington, Ohio until 2002. He became Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the Jackson, Kentucky office in April 2002.  
E-mail:

**Benjamin Johnson** became Richmond's first full-time Emergency Services Coordinator in January 2004. Since then he has declared two local emergencies—one natural and one man-made. He coordinated the efforts of the city to receive a presidential declaration of emergency from the effects of Tropical Storm Gaston so Richmond would be eligible for FEMA reimbursements and mitigation funds. He also coordinated an investigation of "mysterious booms" that culminated in two successful conclusions. E-mail: johnsobw@ci.richmond.va.us

**Jim Junkins** the Director of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communications Center. His current roles include overall administration of the center, which serves 31 public safety agencies, as well as the project manager for the municipalities' regional radio system. He maintains several state and national certifications including Microsoft Certified Professional, Commonwealth of Virginia Adjunct Fire Instructor, National Fire Protection Association Fire Officer and Emergency Medical Technician.

**Lisa Kaplowitz, MD, MSHA** is the Deputy Commissioner for Emergency Preparedness and Response at the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), a position she has held since August 2002. She is responsible for the development and implementation of Virginia's public health response to all natural and man made emergencies, as well as for coordinating the health department's response with the response of hospitals and the health care system in Virginia.

Prior to joining VDH, Kaplowitz was a faculty member in the Department of Medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University for 20 years and Director of the VCU HIV/AIDS Center.  
E-mail: [lisa.kaplowitz@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:lisa.kaplowitz@vdh.virginia.gov)

**Ronald E. Keys** serves as the Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response and is the first point of contact for response concerning Public Safety in the City of Norfolk. He has direct oversight of the Emergency Communications Center which is the city's consolidated 911 and dispatch center. Prior to assuming the position of Director of Emergency Response and Preparedness, Keys was Assistant to the City Manager of Norfolk.

**Lt. Gary K. Ladin** serves as the Officer in Charge of Homeland Security and Intelligence for the City of Richmond Police Department. He is also responsible for SWAT, bomb team, negotiators, crowd management, command centers and medics. He has been with the Richmond Police Department for 18 years. E-mail: [LadinGK@ci.richmond.va.us](mailto:LadinGK@ci.richmond.va.us)

**Marc LaFountain** is the Public Outreach Coordinator for VDEM. His work focuses on encouraging individuals and businesses in Virginia to prepare for emergencies such as hurricanes, tornadoes, lightening, and winter weather. During emergencies, LaFountain also serves as a Public Information Officer for the Virginia Emergency Response Team. Prior to joining VDEM, he worked for Capital One and was also an active volunteer in Public Affairs for the Greater Richmond Red Cross. E-mail: [marc.lafountain@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:marc.lafountain@vdem.virginia.gov)

**Christpoher Landsea, Ph.D.** is the Science and Operations Officer at the National Hurricane Center in Miami. In addition to forecasting and training duties, he is responsible for administration and evaluation of Joint Hurricane Testbed projects, which may be implemented operationally to assist in the monitoring and forecasting of hurricanes. Landsea's main expertise is in seasonal forecasting of hurricanes, in hurricane climate variability and change, and in testing applied research projects for possible use in weather forecasting. He currently is leading a re-analysis of the Atlantic hurricane database.

**William (Bill) H. Leighty** is the senior member of the Governor's Cabinet and Office of the Governor staff. Using his nearly 30 years of state government services, Leighty plays a central role in the Commonwealth's planning, budgetary, and personnel decisions. He oversees the day-to-day operations of the Governor's Cabinet, personal office, and state agencies. Next to the governor, he has the most extensive role in implementing the long-term vision and policies of the executive branch. Leighty has a bachelor's degree in economics from Mary Washington College and an MBA from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Tal Luton**

E-mail: [tluton@james-city.org](mailto:tluton@james-city.org)

**Dave Manning** has been the Warning Coordination Meteorologist in the Baltimore-Washington Weather Forecast Office since 2004. He worked as a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Tulsa, Oklahoma before returning to the East Coast in 2002 to be a forecaster at the forecast office in Sterling, Virginia. While in college Manning was part of the NOAA Student Career Experience Program and worked in the Techniques Development Laboratory in Silver Spring, Maryland and the Goodland, Kansas Weather Forecast Office.  
E-mail:

**Mark Marchbank** is the Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Virginia Beach and has held this position for 17 years. He is responsible for the day-to-day emergency management activities of the city and the emergency responsibilities of the Fire Department's Office of Emergency Management. He previously held several civilian staff positions within the Fire Department prior to working in the emergency management area for the department. E-mail: [mmarchba@vbgov.com](mailto:mmarchba@vbgov.com)

**John William Marshall** was appointed Secretary of Public Safety in 2002 by Governor Warner. Marshall has responsibility for the oversight of 14 state public safety agencies, including the Department of State Police, Department of Corrections, and the Virginia National Guard. Governor Tim Kaine appointed Marshall in January 2006. Marshall began his career in public service and law enforcement in 1980 as a state trooper. During his 14 years with the Department of State Police, he also served as a Special Agent in the Narcotics Division, Sergeant-Instructor at the Training Academy, and as a Sergeant assigned to field operations. Secretary Marshall graduated from Georgetown University in 1988 with a BA in government, and he also holds a post-baccalaureate Certificate in the Administration of Justice from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Steve Mazzola** is a Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Supervisor with Dominion Virginia Power. He is responsible for Dominion coordination with the Commonwealth of Virginia and the States of Wisconsin, Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island for accomplishing joint nuclear emergency planning activities, including the design and conduct of training programs and exercises. He is a past member of a number of nuclear utility emergency preparedness departments from South Carolina to New Hampshire. E-mail:

**Danny McDaniel** joined the Department of Security and Safety at Colonial Williamsburg in 1975, where he has served as a Security Officer, Safety Inspector, Manager of Safety Programs, and Director of Security and Safety. He is a Certified Safety Professional and a Certified Protection Professional. He is a member and past chair of the American Society for Industrial Security standing committee on Museum, Library, and Cultural Properties, the American Association of Museums Security Committee, and the National Fire Protection Association Cultural Resources Committee.

**Deborah Mills** joined VDEM in 2004 as the Hazard Mitigation Program Manager. Prior to that, she worked for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation in the Floodplain Management Program. Mills worked for 13 years managing grant projects within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. She worked for 10 years with the Virginia Department of Forestry, first as an area forester and later as a forest resources planner. E-mail: [deborah.mills@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:deborah.mills@vdem.virginia.gov)

**Lieutenant Colonel Thomas L. Morgan III** is an Infantry officer with 23 years of service who is currently serving as the Director of Military Support for the Virginia National Guard. His most recent military assignments include Commander of the Recruiting and Retention Battalion, Virginia Army National Guard Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Training, Commander of the Officer Candidate School, Administrative Officer for the Regional Training Institute and Military Support Plans and Operations Officer.

**Larry Mullendore** has been the Senior Emergency Preparedness Planner at Virginia Commonwealth University for nearly four years. He also serves as the Chair of the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee. He retired from the United States Army as a colonel in 1997 after 30 years of service. E-mail:

**Alva Lon Pace** currently serves as VDEM's Deputy Director for Operations. Prior to that, he was the Chief of Operations, External Affairs and Communications with the Economic Development Administration. He was a Distinguished Military Graduate from Oklahoma State University in 1981, graduating with a degree in Business Administration. He commanded twice taking one of those units to the Persian Gulf War. He retired from the military in 2003. E-mail: [al.pace@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:al.pace@vdem.virginia.gov)

**Chief Peter Paulding** has been the Chief of Police in Gulf Breeze, Florida since 2001. Prior to that, he served as Chief of Police in Grafton, Massachusetts for three years. He worked for the Plymouth, Massachusetts Police Department for 16 years. Paulding is also a Director of the Florida Police Chiefs Association and Commissioner for the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. E-mail: [paulding@cityofgulfbreeze.com](mailto:paulding@cityofgulfbreeze.com)

#### **R. David Paulison**

**Captain Darrin Peterson** is currently the commander of the Criminal Investigations Division at the Biloxi Police Department. In Peterson's 18-year tenure with the department he has worked in Patrol, Investigations, Services, Communications and Training. During Hurricane Katrina Peterson served as the assistant incident commander for the Police Department. E-mail: [dpeterson@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:dpeterson@biloxi.ms.us)

**Jack Potter, MD** is currently the Medical Director for Emergency Services at Winchester Medical Center in Winchester, Virginia and president of Winchester Emergency Physicians, PC. Winchester Medical Center is a tertiary care referral center for the northern Shenandoah Valley and the flagship hospital for Valley Health System, a three-hospital healthcare network that serves an eight-county region. Dr. Potter has been on staff at WMC for five years and the director of emergency services for three years. E-mail: [jpotter@valleyhealth](mailto:jpotter@valleyhealth)

**Darren Pruitt** is the Operations Manager for the Greensboro & Selma operating areas for Colonial Pipeline Company. He has been with Colonial for 15 years, the last five years in operations management. As the manager of the Greensboro tank farm and operating area, he is responsible for safely transporting over 2 million barrels of refined petroleum products per day, safely maintaining 72 tanks with 7.5 million barrels of capacity, and safely managing one of the most profitable operating units at Colonial. Pruitt is a certified NCCER trainer-coach and he is NIMS certified. E-mail: [dpruitt@colpipe.com](mailto:dpruitt@colpipe.com)

#### **Jennifer Roberson**

**Bill Sammler** is a Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Wakefield, Virginia. He coordinates with state and local emergency managers and NWS

customers to ensure NWS products and services meet their needs. Sammler is the media liaison at NWS Wakefield. He also participates in a number of training initiatives including CERT, the FEMA/NWS Warning Coordination Course, and the SKYWARN storm spotter training. E-mail: William.Sammler@noaa.gov

**Brittany Schaal** joined VDEM July 2004 as a Hazard Mitigation Planner, coordinating with local officials and mitigation planners to ensure proper guidance, training, development, and review of hazard mitigation plans. Currently, she is an Emergency Management Planner in the Preparedness, Training and Exercise Division. Schaal serves as a state point of contact for Continuity of Operations (COOP) and all-hazards emergency operations planning efforts across the Commonwealth. She developed the VDEM COOP Planning Manual and has trained representatives from various state agencies on how to develop a COOP Plan using the manual. E-mail: brittany.schaal@vdem.virginia.gov

**Brigadier General Benjamin “Joe” Spraggins** is the Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security for Harrison County, Mississippi. He is responsible for coordinating the entire emergency management program and providing advice on courses of action available for major decisions. He serves as a liaison between the local county and city governments to ensure all citizens’ safety and security, and he performs the duties of Incident Commander for the Incident Command System. Spraggins also serves as the Chief of Staff for the Tennessee Air National Guard. E-mail: joespraggins@co.harrison.ms.us

**Robbie Symons** has worked for Rockingham County for 22 years and has been the Chief of Fire & Rescue for the past 11 years. Previously, he served as Hazardous Materials Officer, Operations Officer for Rockingham County. He started as a volunteer firefighter at the age of 15 in Woodstock, Virginia. Symons is a Nationally Certified Emergency Manager and a Certified Fire Marshal with Law Enforcement Authority. E-mail: rsymons@rockinghamcountyva.gov

**James Talbot** has worked for the City of Norfolk for 34 years. He became the Assistant Director of Emergency Preparedness & Response in June 1985. As Norfolk's Deputy Director of Emergency Preparedness & Response, Talbot is in charge of Norfolk's All-Hazard emergency planning and Norfolk's Emergency Shelter Program. He has been involved in numerous disaster operations. E-mail: james.Talbot@norfolk.gov

**William E. Ward, Ph.D.**, is a former Mayor of the City of Chesapeake. He is the longest serving council member and mayor in Chesapeake’s history, retiring after 26 years with 14 years as mayor. Recognizing the catastrophic impact of Hurricane Katrina, Chesapeake’s current mayor and city council created the Chesapeake Hurricane Katrina Relief Task Force. Ward serves as the chairman of the task force. E-mail:

**Frank Williamson** has worked at VDEM for nearly 6 years and currently serves as the State Planning Program Manager in the Preparedness, Training and Exercises Division. Coming to the agency just weeks before September 11<sup>th</sup>, he has participated in many Disaster Recovery Operations around the state. He has been assigned to the Virginia Emergency Operation Center and now also serves in the Volunteer and Donations Group. E-mail: frank.Williamson@vdem.virginia.gov

**Danika Yeager** is the Associate Operations Manager for the Greensboro/Selma Operating Area of Colonial Pipeline Company, an interstate common carrier of petroleum products. Owned by a



consortium of oil and petroleum companies, Colonial operates the largest refined liquid petroleum products pipeline in the world. Yeager has worked at Colonial for the past five years in various roles. In her current role Yeager helps manage Colonial's Greensboro tank farm which is the largest refined petroleum products tank farm in the United States.

E-mail: [dyeager@colpipe.com](mailto:dyeager@colpipe.com)

**Doug Young** was appointed as the City of Danville's Emergency Manager in May 1996 after serving 13 years in the Police Dept. as an officer and Deputy EM coordinator. Doug currently serves as VEMAs First Vice President and holds certifications as VaPEM through the Virginia Emergency Mgt Assoc. and C.E.M. through International Assoc of Emergency Managers.